



**Canadian Association of Baptist Freedoms**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**First Baptist Church, Halifax NS and ZOOM**

**3 October 2020**

**Attendees** (in person or via Zoom): David Allen, Joyce Allen, Ron Baxter, Sharon Baxter, Spencer Boersma, Debbie Boyd, John Boyd, John Churchill, Lana Churchill, Ed Colquohoun, Susan Colquohoun, Sue deMont, Rex Deverell, Rita Deverell, Jenny Drewitz (Eisener), Jenny Edwards, Rusty Edwards, Pam Estey, Jean Ferguson, Anita Flowers, Don Flowers, Dave Gibson, Carolyn Harrison, Scott Kindred-Barnes, Hugh Kirkegaard, Marlene Knowles, Harriet McCready, Nelson Metcalfe, Lee Nicholas-Pattillo (Chair), Marilyn Peers, Bert Radford, Mai Radford, Sheila Stanley, Wendy Stubbert, Jeff White.

- 1: **Call to Order:** President Lee Nicholas-Pattillo called the meeting to order at 1:50 p.m., and Hugh Kirkegaard opened the meeting with prayer. Lee explained that due to the exceptional circumstances posed by the pandemic, special provisions applied with respect to eligibility for voting. Consistent with announcements by the Province of Nova Scotia, the definition of 'present' applies not only to those present in person but also those joining via electronic media (Zoom in this instance). Further, for this AGM, membership dues do not have to be current although paying membership dues as well as any additional contributions are encouraged. Details on how to submit dues or other monetary contributions are on listed on the CABF website. As all those present are in view – either in person or on the screen – voting will be by show of hands.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** The President reviewed the agenda that had been made available in advance both via e-mail and on the CABF website. The agenda was unanimously accepted by show of hands.
3. **Approval of Minutes for AGM October 5, 2019:** The motion to approve the minutes for the 2019 AGM moved by Don Flowers, seconded by Dave Gibson, was **carried**.
4. **Business Arising from Minutes of October 5, 2019:** An update on Strategic Planning implementation was the only business arising from the minutes, and that update was included in the President's Report to follow later in the meeting.

**5. Reports from Council:**

President Lee suggested considering all the reports from Council posted electronically on the CABF – except for the Treasurer's Report and the Finance Committee's report – in one

motion. Jeff White moved the motion and it was seconded by Ed Colquhoun. Website Chair, John Boyd, clarified that reports had not been received from the Finance Committee or for the Alliance of Baptists. Lee asked and learned that no report from Finance would be presented. With respect to the Alliance of Baptists, Lee advised that she has taken it upon herself as President of CABF to initiate connection with the Alliance to re-establish and strengthen our partnership with that group. The motion to approve the reports from Council as outlined in the motion was put and **carried**.

**Editorial Note:** The Treasurer's Report, including the CABF Consolidated Financial Statements for the 2019 fiscal year and Statements for the partial year 2020 as presented on the CABF website were inadvertently omitted from consideration at this point. Instead, they were subsequently considered via an on-line vote. This is described in the addendum at the end of these minutes.

## 6. New Business:

- a) **2021 Budget - David Allen:** The proposed budget for 2021, as posted on the CABF website, was presented by the Treasurer, David Allen, on behalf of the Chair of the Finance Committee. David noted that the only significant difference in the proposed budget from that for previous years is that it includes approximately sixty-five hundred dollars (\$6,500) more in both expenditures and revenues. The planned increases had been approved by Council for inclusion in the 2021 budget for presentation to the AGM in anticipation of expenditures and revenues related to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations for CABF (formerly Atlantic Baptist Fellowship [ ABF]). These amounts relate to special activities, mementos and projects.

David Allen moved and John Boyd seconded that the proposed budget for 2021 be approved.

**Motion Carried**

- b) **Nominating Committee - John Tonks:** John Boyd presented on behalf of the Chair of the Nominating Committee Chair John Tonks who was not present. The report had been posted on the CABF website, and John B. clarified that, due to this exceptional period, Council had approached all those whose terms were due to expire at this AGM to serve an additional year. Thus, the report includes not only those whose terms were scheduled to continue but also those who have agreed to extend their terms for an additional year. John Boyd moved, and John Churchill seconded that the report of the Nomination Committee be approved.

**Motion Carried**

President Lee thanked all those who continue to serve their terms and, in particular, those who had agreed to extend their term of service for an additional year. She encouraged members to begin thinking now about succession planning for future years.

- c) **By-Laws Revisions – Dave Gibson:** A background document summarizing the proposed revisions to the by-laws, a document showing each proposed revision, and a copy of the Special Resolution to be put before the AGM had been circulated previously by e-mail and posted on the CABF website. Notice of this Special Resolution had been given

previously as required by the current by-laws. As a Special Resolution requires a seventy-five percent (75%) majority voting in favour, a roll call was held to confirm that quorum was present and the number of persons present/eligible to vote. Thirty-three were confirmed in this roll call, and quorum was present.

Dave Gibson moved, and Sheila Stanley seconded the following Special Resolution:

## CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR BAPTIST FREEDOMS

(the name of the Society)

RE: SPECIAL RESOLUTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY AUTHORIZING THE ALTERATION OF THE BY-LAWS OF THE SOCIETY

- 1) the members of the Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms, a Society incorporated pursuant to the Societies Act (Nova Scotia), desire to alter the By-Laws of the Society; and
- 2) notice of intention to pass the resolution as a Special Resolution was duly given to members attending the Annual General Meeting of the Society;

THEREFORE:

BE IT RESOLVED as a SPECIAL RESOLUTION of the members of the Society that:

1. The current By-Laws of the above-named Society, including all amendments thereto, be repealed in their entirety; and
2. The By-Laws of the Society be replaced with the following By-Laws attached hereto and marked as Appendix "A".

As there were no questions, the motion was put. All votes were in the affirmative, and there were no abstentions or objections. The requisite seventy-five percent (75%) majority requirement was fully achieved. **Motion Carried**

- d) **Anniversary Update: David Allen;** David outlined the work done by the ad hoc Golden Anniversary Committee to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the CABF and its predecessor (ABF). President Lee formed the Committee early in 2020 comprising himself, President Lee, Scott Kindred-Barnes, Roger Prentice and Jeff White. The Committee had one in-person meeting in February prior to the shutdown due to the pandemic, and it has met four additional times by Zoom. The 2021 Rushton Lecture and 2021 AGM will include Anniversary activities and will be planned in concert with the Program Committee. Sample initiatives and activities include preparing a history of CABF and its predecessor ABF, composing a hymn, filling a time capsule, and making a commemorative souvenir (already on order) available. The 2021 budget anticipates that the additional expenses budgeted for the Anniversary will be offset by corresponding

revenue. David cautioned that this expected balancing of expenditures with revenues anticipates that the environment related to the pandemic will be amenable to events occurring as planned.

The Committee is seeking the input of the membership for a theme for the celebrations as well as suggestions of items to insert in the time capsule. These can be emailed to David directly at his personal email or simply to his Treasurer's email address that can be found on the CABF website.

**7. Prayer and Adjournment:** Rusty offered a closing prayer, and the Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:31 p.m.

### Addendum

After the close of the Annual General Meeting on October 3, 2020, it was realized that the Treasurer's Report containing the CABF Consolidated Financial Statements which had been made available to the membership on the CABF website prior to the AGM had not been discussed or voted upon under Agenda Item 5 "Reports from Council". After consulting with the CABF Council to determine how to address this omission, it was decided that President Lee send an email on October 7<sup>th</sup> to all the members who had attended the AGM explaining the oversight and approach to addressing it. Members were advised that it had been moved by David Allen and seconded by Dave Gibson that the Consolidated Financial Statements for the 2019 Fiscal Year be approved.

In sending the request to consider the motion, President Lee attached the motion and the Consolidated Financial Statement and asked that any questions on the statements be directed to her so that they could be addressed. President Lee advised if there were questions, a Q&A would be prepared and sent to all. If there were no questions, those who had been in attendance were asked to cast their vote on the motion by Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. (There were no questions.)

The outcome of the online balloting was that the motion to approve the Consolidated Financial Statements for the 2019 fiscal year was **carried**.

*Enclosures: Minutes for AGM held on October 5, 2019; President's Report; Treasurer's Report [CABF Consolidated Financial Statements (2019 AGM) for 2019 fiscal year and Consolidated Financial Statements for 2020 Partial Year]; Bulletin Report; Constitution and By-Laws Report [By-Law Revisions, By-Law Background and Revisions List, Special Resolution, By-Laws as approved]; Credentials Report; Membership Report; Website Report; Canadian Council of Churches Report; 2021 Budget; 2021 Nominating Committee Report.*